REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments in the following remarks are respectfully request.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner and her supervisor for the interview with Applicants' representative on October 22, 2002.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-28 are pending, claims 2, 10 and a duplicate claim 24 having been canceled without prejudice, claims 1 and 9 having been amended, and the duplicate claim 24 having been reintroduced as new claim 28 in order to correct a claim numbering problem introduced in the amendment of May 13, 2002 (i.e., two claims 24 were added by that amendment).

The Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U. S. C. 103 (a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,081,814 to Mangat et al. (Mangat) in view of U.S. Patent 5,835,919 to Stern et al. (Stern).   Applicants submit that the cancellation of claims 2 and 10 render the rejection to these claims moot. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection with regard to claims 5 and 13 and respectfully submit that the amended claims obviate the rejection with respect to the remaining claims.

Claims 1, 3-8 and 17-22 are directed to a method in a computer system and similarly, claims 9, 11-16 and 23-28 are directed to a computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing a method. The method comprises providing a user access to enhanced functionality in response to the user selecting an element of an immersive reading page, wherein the immersive reading page is configured to selectively provide or not provide a visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, such that when the immersive reading page is selectively configured to provide the visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, the visual indication appears directly on the immersive reading page.

Mangat relates to computer applications using or requiring access to documents and files. Particularly, Mangat relates to systems and methods for retrieving and linking documents or files. Mangat discloses creating, maintaining and searching entries, referring to documents listed in an environment, entries referring to environments in a list of environments, catalogs containing lists of multiple environments, and catalogs of catalogs across a local area network, an internetwork, or across a directory services system. Assuming, but not admitting, that tool palette 118 of figure 3 and figure 5 may be interpreted as providing a visual indication to the user

of enhanced functionality, Mangat does not disclose, teach or suggest the immersive reading page being configured to selectively provide or not provide a visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, such that when the immersive reading page is selectively configured to provide the visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, the visual indication appears directly on the immersive reading page. Significantly, tool palette 118 of Mangat is separate from the immersive reading page.

Further, the claims require that the immersive reading page mimic a printed paper page. Tool palette 118 does not appear on an immersive reading page because it does not appear on a page that mimics a printed paper page.

Stern is directed to a document-centered user interface architecture for a computer system employing parts as the fundamental building block of all documents. Stern provides a uniform interface that enables all different kinds of information-conveying elements to be combined and manipulated within documents in ways that were not previously possible. See Column 2, lines 56-60. Stern discloses that any fundamental building block of a document-centered architecture is a "part". The part is a self-contained element comprised of two primary components, its content and a manipulator for that content. The manipulator for the part can be any type editor or viewer for the contents of the part, and it can be selected by the user, if necessary.

Applicants further submit that Stern also fails to disclose, teach or suggest the above mentioned limitation of the claims and thus does not overcome the deficiencies of Mangat. Therefore, Applicants submit that the combination of Mangat and Stern fails to disclose, teach or suggest the above-mentioned limitation of claims. Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over Mangat and Stern and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Further, Applicants wish to point out that claims 5 and 13 are directed to a method and a computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for performing a method, respectively, wherein an element of an immersive reading page is associated with enhanced functionality and the element is a page number. The method comprises providing the user access to the enhanced functionality in response to the user selecting the element (page number) of the immersive reading page.

On page 3 of the present Office Action, the Examiner states that Mangat shows that the element is a page number and the step of associating comprises associating intrabook navigational functionality with the page number. The Examiner refers to Column 15, lines 36-48 and Column 7, lines 7-56 of Mangat to support the rejection. Column 15, lines 36-48 refers to
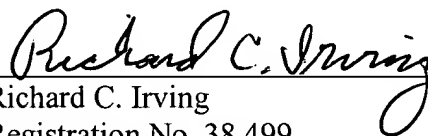
items on tool palette 118, shown in figures 3 and 5. Applicants submit that this portion of Mangat does not disclose, teach or suggest providing the user access to enhanced functionality in response to the user selecting the page number of the immersive reading page, as recited in claims 5 and 13. Column 7, lines 7-56 discloses a method that provides use of a managed reference environment. This portion of Mangat is also devoid of the above-mentioned feature of claims 5 and 13. In fact, this feature is mentioned nowhere in the Mangat reference. Further, Applicants submit that Stern is also totally devoid of this feature.

All rejections having been addressed, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If any issues remain which could best be resolved by a personal telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

Should any fees be deemed necessary by the U.S. Patent Office to keep the above identified application in force, the U.S. Patent Office is authorized to charge such fees, other than the Issue Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version Showing Marked-Up Changes

Claims 2, 10 and 24 were cancelled without prejudice and the following claims were amended:

1. (Twice Amended) In a computer system having a user interface, including a display and a selection device, a method of displaying an electronic document, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying at least a portion of the electronic document to a user as an immersive reading page, the immersive reading page mimicing a printed paper page;

associating with an element of the immersive reading page enhanced functionality; and

providing the user access to the enhanced functionality in response to the user selecting the element of the immersive reading page, wherein

the immersive reading page is configured to selectively provide or not provide a visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, when the immersive reading page is selectively configured to provide the visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, the visual indication appears directly on the immersive reading page.

9. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing a method of displaying an electronic document, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying at least a portion of the electronic document to a user as an immersive reading page, the immersive reading page mimicing a printed paper page;

associating with an element of the immersive reading page enhanced functionality; and

providing the user access to the enhanced functionality in response to the user selecting the element of the immersive reading page, wherein

the immersive reading page is configured to selectively provide or not provide a visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, when the immersive reading page is selectively configured to provide the visual indication to the user of the enhanced functionality, the visual indication appears directly on the immersive reading page.